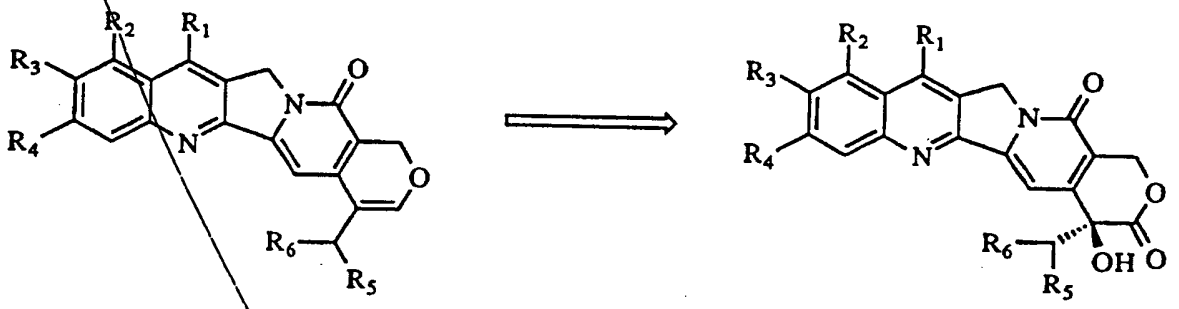
We claim:

1. A method of preparing a compound of Formula (I)



(II) (I)

which comprises dihydroxylating a compound of Formula (II), wherein: R_1 and R_2, which may be the same or different, are independently selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, or alkoxy alkyl, or ($-CH_2NR_7R_8$), wherein:

i) R_7 and R_8, which may be the same or different, are independently selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, or lower alkoxy lower alkyl; or

ii) R_7 represents hyrogen, lower alkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, or lower alkoxy lower alkyl, and
R_8 represents $-COR_9$,

wherein:

R_9 represents hydrogen, lower alkyl, perhalo-lower alkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkoxy lower alkyl; or

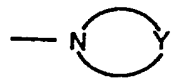
iii) R_7 represents hydrogen or lower alkyl; and R_8 represents diphenyl-methyl or $-(CH_2)_tAr$

wherein:

t is 0 to 5 and

Ar represents phenyl, furyl, pyridyl, N-methylpyrrolyl, imidazolyl optionally subsituted with one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, methyl, halogen, and amino; or

iv) R_7 and R_8 taken together with the linking nitrogen form a staturated 3 to 7 atom heterocyclic group of formula (IA)



(IA)

wherein:

Y represents O, S, SO, SO_2, CH_2 or NR_{10},

wherein:

R_{10} represents hydrogen, lower alkyl, perhalo lower alkyl, aryl, aryl substituted with one or more substituents selected from lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, nitro, amino, lower alkyl amino, perhalo-lower alkyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, lower alkoxy lower alkyl groups or

$-COR_{11}$,

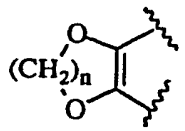
wherein:

R_{11} represents hydrogen, lower alkyl, perhalo-lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, aryl, aryl substituted with one or more substituents selected from lower alkyl, perhalo-

lower alkyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, lower alkoxy lower alkyl groups; or

R_3 and R_4 are independently selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, or alkoxy alkyl; or

R_3 and R_4 taken together form a saturated 5 to 6 atom heterocyclic group of formula (IB)



(IB)

wherein,

n represents the integer 1 or 2; or

R_3 represents $-OCONR_{12}R_{13}$,

wherein,

R_{12} and R_{13}, which may be the same or different, areindependently selected from hydrogen, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group with 1-4 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic group, with the proviso that when both R_{12} and R_{13} are substituted or unsubstituted alkyl groups, they may be combined together with the nitrogen atom, to which they are bonded, to form a heterocyclic ring which may be interrupted with -O-, -S- and/or $>N-R_{14}$ in which R_{14} is hydrogen, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group with 1-4 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl group, and

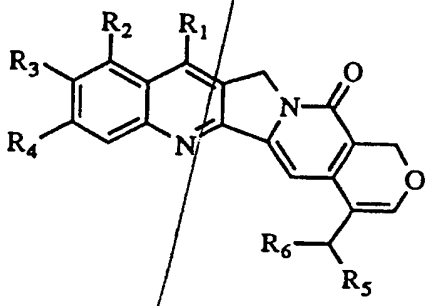
R_5 represents hydrogen or alkyl, and

R_6 represents hydrogen or alkyl, and

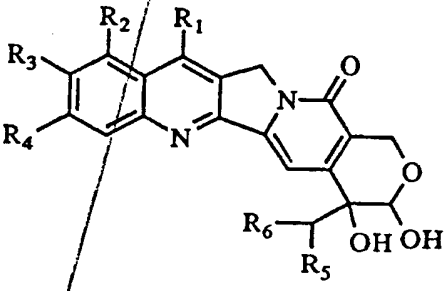
pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

Sub B1

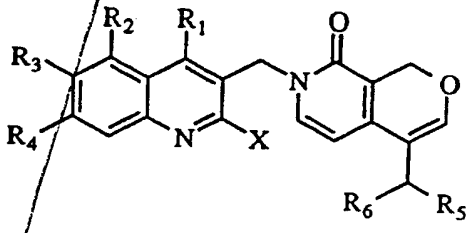
2. A compound of Formulas (II), (III), (IV), or (VI):



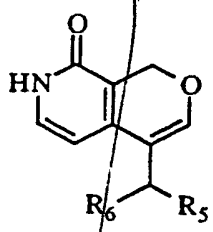
(II)



(III)



(IV)



(VI)

wherein:
R_1 and R_2, which may be the same or different, are independently selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, or alkoxy alkyl, or $(-CH_2NR_7R_8)$, wherein:

i) R_7 and R_8, which may be the same or different, are independently selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, or lower alkoxy lower alkyl; or

ii) R_7 represents hyrogen, lower alkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, or lower alkoxy lower alkyl, and
R_8 represents $-COR_9$,

wherein:

R_9 represents hydrogen, lower alkyl, perhalo-lower alkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7}) cycloalkyl lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkoxy lower alkyl; or

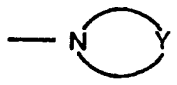
iii) R_7 represents hydrogen or lower alkyl; and R_8 represents diphenyl-methyl or $-(CH_2)_tAr$

wherein:

t is 0 to 5 and

Ar represents phenyl, furyl, pyridyl, N-methylpyrrolyl, imidazolyl optionally subsituted with one or more substituents selected from hydroxy, methyl, halogen, and amino; or

iv) R_7 and R_8 taken together with the linking nitrogen form a staturated 3 to 7 atom heterocyclic group of formula (IA)



(IA)

wherein:

Y represents O, S, SO, SO_2, CH_2 or NR_{10},

wherein:

R_{10} represents hydrogen, lower alkyl, perhalo lower alkyl, aryl, aryl substituted with one or more substituents selected from lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, halogen, nitro, amino, lower alkyl amino, perhalo-lower alkyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, lower alkoxy lower alkyl groups or

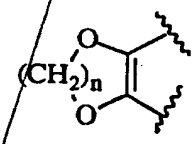
$-COR_{11}$,

wherein:

R_{11} represents hydrogen, lower alkyl, perhalo-lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, aryl, aryl substituted with one or more substituents selected from lower alkyl, perhalo-lower alkyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, lower alkoxy lower alkyl groups; or

R_3 and R_4 are independently selected from hydrogen, lower alkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl, (C_{3-7})cycloalkyl lower alkyl, lower alkenyl, hydroxy lower alkyl, or alkoxy alkyl; or

R_3 and R_4 taken together form a saturated 5 to 6 atom heterocyclic group of formula (IB)



(IB)

wherein,

n represents the integer 1 or 2; or

R_3 represents $-OCONR_{12}R_{13}$,

wherein,

R_{12} and R_{13}, which may be the same or different, areindependently selected from hydrogen, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group with 1-4 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted carbocyclic or heterocyclic group, with the proviso that when both R_{12} and R_{13} are substituted or unsubstituted alkyl groups, they may be combined together with the nitrogen atom, to which they are bonded, to form a heterocyclic ring which may be interrupted with -O-, -S- and/or $>N-R_{14}$ in which R_{14} is hydrogen, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group with 1-4 carbon atoms or a substituted or unsubstituted phenyl group, and

R_5 represents hydrogen or alkyl, and

R_6 represents hydrogen or alkyl, and

pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof.

3. A compound selected from the group consisting of:

4-Ethyl-1H-pyrano[3,4-c]pyridin-8-one;

4-Ethyl-7-[7-iodo-9-[(4-methyl-piperazinyl)methyl]-2,3-dihydro-[1,4]dioxino[2,3-g]quinolin-8-ylmethyl]-1H-pyrano[3,4-c]pyridin-8-one;

11H-1,4-Dioxino[2,3-g]pyrano[3'4':6,7]indolizino[1,2-b]quinoline-12(14H)-one,8-ethyl-2,3-dihydro-15-[(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)methyl]; or

11H-1,4-Dioxino[2,3-g]pyrano[3',4':6,7]indolizino[1,2-b]quinoline-12(8H,14H)- one,8-ethyl-2,3-dihydro-8,9-dihydroxy-15-[(4-methyl-1-piperazinyl)methyl]- (9R-cis).